

# Courier

## Inside this issue...

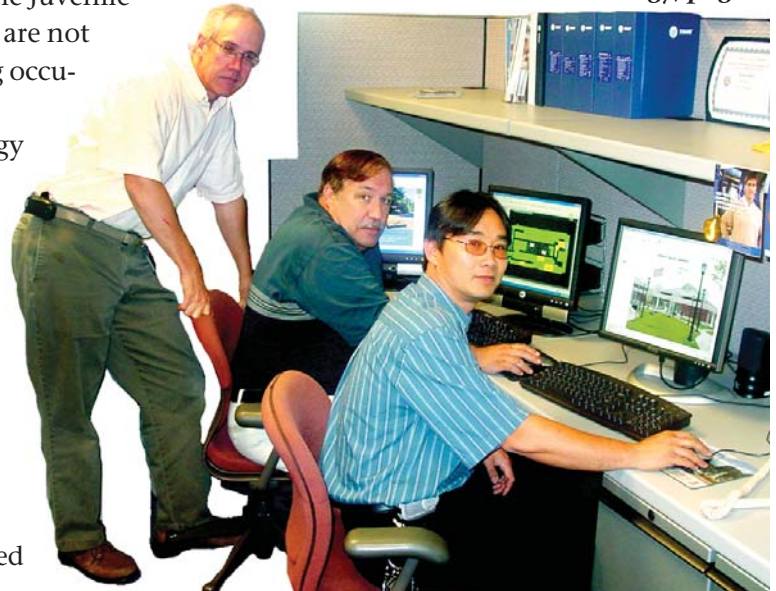
- ♦ Managing energy – 1
- ♦ NACo awards – 1
- ♦ 2006 pay plans – 3
- ♦ Antivirus upgrade – 3
- ♦ Ready...Pack...Go – 6
- ♦ More winners – 7
- ♦ Security & Safety – 8
- ♦ Talent call – 8

Online, use the hand symbol above to click the content topic and go directly to that page.

## Managing the county's energy utilization

The card room at Hollin Hall is too hot! Space temps look good at Franconia Governmental Center. Chiller pump #2 is in alarm at the Juvenile Detention Center. These are not comments from building occupants but rather instant observations of the Energy Management Control Systems about energy usage at these county government buildings. In a small office on the fourth floor of the Government Center, the climatic well-being of these and more than 50 other government buildings is carefully monitored in real time. "We know

what's going on in these buildings before many of the occupants do," said **Brad Melton**, referring to the complex, real-time data. *See Energy, page 2*



Brad Melton, Pat Buchanan and Jay Yee check the system.

## County wins 12 NACo awards

Fairfax County recently won 11 Achievement Awards and one Acts of Caring Award from the National Association of Counties. For the third consecutive year, the county has won Achievement Awards for its programs focused on children and youth, county administration and management, and environmental protection and energy.

During the past five years, the county has won Achievement Awards in 20 of

the 21 categories that recognize innovative county programs, with distinctions for programs spanning the arts to volunteerism. Of the 18 Acts of Caring Awards granted each year, the county has won an award every year since 2000.

This year, 13 county organizations earned accolades for their creative programs: Department of Family Services, Department of Finance, Department of

*See NACo, page 4*

**Energy, from page 1**

time systems that monitor energy usage and comfort levels.

Melton is the Facility Management Department's senior energy engineer. Along with

**Patrick Buchanan**, building automation systems engineer, and **Jay Yee**, controls engineer, they comprise the Energy Management Section – the nucleus of the county's ability to maintain efficient use of energy in 55 of the 160 government buildings.

Building Automation Systems are installed in 55 county buildings.

Data are continually transmitted over the county's Intranet/Internet and dial-up connections to the Energy Management Control Center. Real time alarms alert staff if areas become

too warm or cold, or if equipment fails. Scheduling equipment to shut off at night to conserve energy and controlling temperature settings remotely are just some of the features of an Energy Management Control System. Buchanan pointed out that these Energy Management Systems serve as a diagnostic tool, identifying potential heating, cooling or other system problems before they become serious as well as a tool for saving energy. "Before we had Building Automation Systems, for example, a building occupant had to become aware of an equipment failure and call it in to maintenance," he said, pointing out this was often too late to avert abnormal temperature fluctuations.

Using the Government Center as an example, Buchanan explained how the three large chillers located in the top of the building are programmed to keep temperatures consistent throughout the day and then shut down at night to save energy. "Since we've been focusing on managing the energy use in government buildings, we have helped reduce the overall utility costs by \$1 million annually," he said.

The Building Automation Systems include some of the largest energy-consuming buildings. "Buildings like the Government Center, Pennino, Herrity and Massey buildings, Judicial Center, Adult Detention Center, Juvenile Detention Center and libraries are among the top energy users. With increasing energy costs,

the importance of energy saving strategies is growing," said Melton, who cited plans for bringing many other government buildings into the automated monitoring system during the next 10 years.

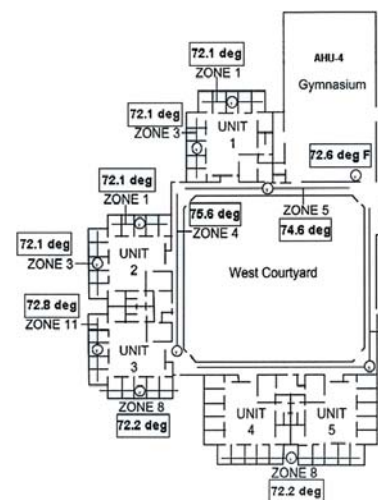
Data collected by the Building Automation Systems are fed into centrally managed software systems. The team demonstrated the energy management software, showing how the system monitors and adjusts temperatures and controls various equipment in the buildings. It also identifies potential problems before they become significant. "A possible problem with one of the big air handlers, for example, can be sent by e-mail or cell phone directly to one of the operations engineers or HVAC technicians who can be on site and correct the problem before any of the occupants realize any discomfort," said Buchanan.

Melton also pointed out that more than 700 utility bills are analyzed by the FASER software. Reports can identify high-energy-use buildings for future audits, track energy savings after renovation projects are complete or show the energy cost per square foot of space. "This is an essential energy management tool," he said.

"While heating and air conditioning are large energy consumers in a building, inefficient lighting can be an incredible energy drain," Melton said. Energy audits under Energy Performance Contracts are conducted on specified buildings. Installing new lights can save energy and often give more illumination. To date, more than 75 buildings have had energy audits resulting in a combined annual energy savings of more than \$1 million. "The energy savings actually help finance the purchase of new capital equipment through lease payments," said Melton.

The Energy Management Section also reviews new building designs to ensure the government facilities are energy-efficient, maintainable and meet design standards. "We've already proven that good energy management can save dollars," said Melton. "We want to continue this trend in balancing energy use with comfort and productivity to ensure dollars are well spent."

For more information, visit FMD's energy Web page on the Infoweb at <http://infoweb/FMD/energy>. ■



## 2006 pay plans now available online

Each July, the Department of Human Resources updates the county pay plans to ensure they remain competitive with the market. Fairfax County has seven (7) pay plans for employees: S (General County), L (Assistant County Attorneys), E (Executive), C (Uniformed Sheriff), F (Uniformed Fire/Rescue), O (Uniformed Police) and P (Public Safety Communicators and Animal Control Officers).

An annual market index is calculated using factors taken from the Consumer Price Index and the Employment Cost Index which includes salaries from the private sector as well as state and local governments, plus the federal wage adjustment.

Based on the FY2006 market index, the Board of Supervisors approved a 3.07 percent market rate adjustment for all of the pay plans, effective July 9, 2005.

The minimum and maximum pay ranges for grades on the S, L, and E pay plans have been increased by the 3.07 percent market rate adjustment. Salaries of individual employees in

these grades will automatically increase *only* to bring an individual salary up to the minimum of the pay range. However, the higher range maximum may provide future salary increases for those near the top of their pay ranges.

Each step on the C and P public safety pay plans has been increased by a 3.07 percent market rate adjustment. Because the salaries of these public safety employees are tied to their pay steps, individual employees covered under these plans will receive a 3.07 percent increase in their salaries.

Each step on the O and F public safety pay plans has been increased by the 3.07 percent market rate adjustment and a 4 percent salary adjustment.

The pay plans are available online and can be seen at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/pers/PAY-PLAN/FY06/Pay06.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/pers/PAY-PLAN/FY06/Pay06.htm).

If you have any questions on these pay plans, please contact the DHR Workforce Planning and Compensation Division at 703-324-3325, TTY 703-222-7314. ■

**Pay plans are available online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/pers/PAY-PLAN/FY06/Pay06.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/pers/PAY-PLAN/FY06/Pay06.htm).**

## DIT implements antivirus upgrade

As part of the Department of Information Technology's continuing improvements to the county's computer systems in this time of heightened security awareness, Symantec Client Security 3.0 will be installed on county computer systems, beginning Monday, July 18.

The upgraded client will provide a more secure, readily available computer environment, and includes Symantec Antivirus 10.0 and Symantec Firewall 8.0.

This latest version of Symantec antivirus software utilizes a combination of security technologies to provide vital protection against the threats encountered in today's world.

Employees and citizens alike rely on Fairfax County government's network of personal computers, servers, kiosks and Web pages that make up the backbone of doing business with the county. By keeping antivirus soft-

ware up to date, DIT is helping to ensure continued service availability to county staff and residents.

While it's important to leave county computers powered on but logged off from the network each night, it is extremely important that computers be restarted at the end of the day and left on at night during the week of July 18 to ensure successful installation of the software.

For a smooth transition to the new software, agency IT contacts have received detailed information about the upgrade. Additional information will be available in NewsLink.

For more information about the security upgrade, call the Technical Support Center at 703-222-3535, option 1, TTY 711, or e-mail [tschelp@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:tschelp@fairfaxcounty.gov). ■

**Classified ads are on the Infoweb**





### *NACo, from page 1*

Housing and Community Development, Department of Management and Budget, Department of Planning and Zoning, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, Department of Systems Management for Human Services, Department of Vehicle Services, Health Department, Office of the County Executive, Office of Emergency Management, Office of Equity Programs, and the office of the Providence District Supervisor.

Since 1970, the Achievement Awards have honored innovative county government programs that modernize, streamline or expand services to residents. The Acts of Caring Awards recognize top county volunteer programs in the nation. The National Association of Counties represents the nation's 3,066 counties.

Here is a summary of the award-winning programs:

♦ **Chesapeake Bay Supplement: Comprehensive Plan.** Department of Planning and Zoning.

The county's Chesapeake Bay Supplement is a policy document that guides the county in improving water quality. In response to the state's comprehensive planning requirements, the county supplement expanded the Board of Supervisors 20-year environmental vision plan, providing a comprehensive overview of water quality conditions, trends and initiatives in the county while including 42 specific recommendations to address water pollution, infill development, redevelopment, shoreline erosion control and shoreline access. Geographic Information System mapping and oblique aerial photographs showing shoreline conditions saved the county thousands of dollars compared to using traditional field surveys.

♦ **Children Helping Children.** Office for Children, Department of Family Services.

The Children Helping Children program received an Acts of Caring Award for encouraging youngsters enrolled in the county's 131 childcare centers for school-age children to get involved in community service

projects benefiting other kids. Projects include clothing exchanges, book collections for hospitalized children, pillow donations for children receiving emergency care and raising money for families who stay at INOVA's Ronald McDonald House while their children receive cancer treatment.

♦ **Demonstrating Innovation: A Stormwater Retrofit at the Providence Supervisor's Office.** Office of Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth.

This innovative project is located in the parking lot at the Providence District Supervisor's office where stormwater is filtered and retained before it becomes runoff using an integrated system of stormwater management practices that are the first of their kind in the county. The project pushes forward the Board's 20-year environmental vision plan, which encourages the use of rain gardens and green roofs.

♦ **Diversity Program: "Many Faces of Fairfax."** Office of Equity Programs.

Last November, a diversity conference, titled "Many Faces of Fairfax," attracted 306 employees from 31 agencies who participated in 17 different workshops to aid employees who serve the county's diverse population.

♦ **Enhancing Emergency Management Through Partnerships, Facilities and Technology.** Office of Emergency Management.

The Office of Emergency Management received recognition for creating partnerships between public and private sector organizations, improving its emergency operations facilities and installing enhanced technology, all designed to improve the county's emergency management operations.

♦ **Health Access Assistance Team.** Department of Family Services, Health Department, Office of Partnerships, Department of Systems Management for Human Services.

The newly-formed health access assistance teams offer one-stop shopping for uninsured, low-income county residents seeking health care. The teams, which are located at each of the county's three outpatient clinics for the

*See Awards, page 5*

**Awards, from page 4**

uninsured, enroll eligible residents into federal, state or county health care programs. Bringing four county agencies together in partnership, the HAAT program allows county residents to receive health care more quickly and efficiently, and maximizes the county's resources by matching residents with federal or state programs first. The teams serve 750 residents per month with 79 percent of these consumers successfully enrolled in a federal, state or county health care program.

♦ **Employee Travel Policy and Outreach Program.** Department of Finance.

A new travel policy was developed that incorporates the best practices of the federal and state governments, establishing uniform, equitable standards for travel authorization and reimbursement while providing maximum flexibility to county employees. The county has reduced costs through a new policy of paying travel advances and reimbursements through electronic deposits into employees' bank accounts, and adopting flat per diem rates for incidental and meal reimbursements that eliminates administrative costs for auditing and reimbursing these expenses.

♦ **Environmental Excellence Program: E-2 Certification.** Department of Vehicle Services; Solid Waste Division, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services.

The environmental management plan developed by Vehicle Services and the Solid Waste Division won certification in the Virginia Environmental Excellence Program and membership in the Business for the Chesapeake Bay Program. The county received these two awards for the first time last year. As a result of the plan's implementation, the county has a recycling rate of 34 percent, exceeding the 25 percent mandated by the state, and has cut air pollution by retrofitting its diesel school buses and purchasing hybrid vehicles.

♦ **Fairfax County's Magnet Housing Pilot Program.** Department of Housing and Community Development; Fire and Rescue Department.

This innovative pilot program improves

workforce housing for the county's firefighters, allowing trainees and their families to rent affordable housing for up to two years during their training and probationary period of employment. The program has been expanded to include police cadets.

♦ **Improving Air Quality in the Washington Metropolitan Area: A Commitment to Air Quality Excellence.** Office of the County Executive.

"Improving Air Quality in the Washington Metropolitan Region: Fairfax County's Commitment to Air Quality Excellence" is a county strategy that offers a menu of recommended actions to improve air quality. The Board of Supervisors has funded or implemented many actions, including purchasing clean-fueled public transportation vehicles; buying low-emissions lawn and garden equipment; offering free Connector bus rides on Ozone Action Days; and encouraging teleworking on Code Red Days. The state and other local jurisdictions have embraced some of the recommendations outlined in the county's strategy.

♦ **Institute for Early Learning and Emerging Literacy.** Office for Children, Department of Family Services.

Created by the Office for Children, the institute trains childcare providers to teach early literacy skills, earning up to \$750 for completing the 36-hour program. The office partnered with the county's public schools to design a curriculum for children. Since its inception, the institute has trained more than 3,300 childcare providers.

♦ **Laurel Hill Public/Private Partnership.** Department of Management and Budget.

The Board of Supervisors, School Board, Park Authority and Economic Development Authority partnered with a private developer to redevelop Laurel Hill, the site of the former Lorton prison complex. The partnership allowed financing on an accelerated schedule for new county facilities, including a high school, golf course, and senior living and graduated-care facilities. ■



## “Ready ... Pack ... Go”

Fairfax County government representatives are working in partnership with area faith community leaders to encourage their members to prepare home emergency supply kits this September as part of a countywide campaign to improve preparedness.

The “Ready ... Pack ... Go” campaign is a collaborative effort among Fairfax County’s Community Interfaith Liaison Office in the Department of Systems Management for Human Services, Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council, in addition to the county’s Office of Public Affairs, Department of Family Services and Office of Emergency Management. The American Red Cross and participating faith communities also are part of the collaboration. Using the faith organizational structures, the campaign will reinforce the importance of being prepared for emergency situations and encourage residents to prepare an emergency supply kit that can be taken to a basement, interior room, public shelter, friend’s house or other safe areas during an emergency incident.

In preparation for the campaign, training sessions are scheduled through Aug. 25 for individual faith community leaders. County representatives will review emergency pre-

County’s community interfaith liaison.

“Faith communities in Fairfax County have taken the leadership role to make this happen through the ‘Ready ... Pack ... Go’ campaign.”

Training sessions are scheduled from 7 to 9 p.m. County employees interested in participating as a campaign leader for their individual

- house of worship may attend
- any session listed below by

- calling 703-324-3453, TTY 703-324-7914 or by sending an e-mail to [ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ciluser@fairfaxcounty.gov). Those who are

interested also should contact their faith community to check if a trainer already has been identified for their individual house of worship. Those trained at the meetings will be key people who explain this program to their local faith community in September.

The following sessions are scheduled (with two trainings completed in McLean and Burke):

**July 14** – Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria

**July 21** – Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax

**July 28** – Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly

**Aug. 4** – Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale

**Aug. 8** – North County Governmental Center, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston

**Aug. 11** – Kilmer Middle School, 8100 Wolf Trap Road, Vienna

**Aug. 18** – Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

**Aug. 25** – West Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield

For more information about the campaign, visit [www.fairfaxcountycitizenrcps.org](http://www.fairfaxcountycitizenrcps.org) or contact the Fairfax County Community Interfaith Liaison Office at 703-324-8272, TTY 703-324-7914. ■ by Greg Licamele, OPA



• P A C K



Doug Bass, county emergency preparedness officer, explains the program.

paredness and discuss effective ways to promote this topic to the faith community. The American Red Cross will provide a hands-on presentation of home emergency supply kits.

“Education is key to preparing our faith communities for emergencies and disasters,” said **Sandy Chisholm**, Fairfax



# Winning agencies tell good stories

It was difficult to judge a single winner from all the terrific agency exhibits at the Celebrate Fairfax! festival recently. "The exhibits were creative, informative and interactive, and told the story of the high quality of services that we provide to our residents," said Chairman **Gerald E. Connolly**, at the June 20 Board of Supervisors meeting which recognized the top exhibits selected by a panel of judges.

The **Best of Show** went to Solid Waste Management/Department of Public Works & Environmental Services. This exhibit allowed visitors to see the key processes in recycling and learn how recycling the wrong materials can contaminate the whole process. The exhibit included clear, creative and self-explanatory displays.

Congratulations to all entries for all the hard work!

Other winners in the indicated categories were:

## ■ Best in Communications

- 1st place – Wastewater Management/DPWES
- 2nd place – Fairfax County Public Schools
- 3rd place – Land Development Services/DPWES

## ■ Best in Content

- 1st place – Department of Systems Management for Human Services
- 2nd place – Electoral Board and General Registrar
- 3rd place – Commission on Organ and Tissue Donation

## ■ Best in Design

- 1st place – Fairfax Water

2nd place – Health Department

3rd place – Department of Family Services/Office for Children

## ■ Best in Creativity

- 1st place – Department of Transportation
- 2nd place – Park Authority
- 3rd place – General District Court

## ■ Judges Choice

- 1st place – Fire & Rescue
- 2nd place – Department of Information Technology
- 3rd place – Department of Planning and Zoning ■

# More winners....

In addition to the NACo awards received by county agencies, eight agency and individual awards were received from the National Association of Government Communicators.

♦ Photography	Don Sweeney, Park Authority	First Place
♦ Writer's Portfolio	Daphne Hutchinson, Park Authority	First Place
♦ Local Magazine	ParkTakes, Park Authority	Second Place
♦ Shoestring Budget	Office of Public Affairs	Second Place
♦ Best Animation	Channel 16	Second Place
♦ Brochure/Booklet	Reston Community Center	Award of Excellence
♦ News Release	Office of Public Affairs	Award of Excellence
♦ E-Newsletter	Office of Public Affairs	Award of Excellence



*Great Blue Heron,  
by Don Sweeney, Park Authority*

The county also garnered two technology awards at the recent FOSE trade show in Washington, D.C. The E-Town Award was received for GIS/Mapping's "My Neighborhood" Web application while the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board received the Homeland Security Center Award for its "Notifier" application using a GIS-enabled emergency response system.

The county's Noman M. Cole Jr. Pollution Control Plant received the Gold Peak Performance Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, recognizing the facility's outstanding accomplishments in wastewater treatment and environmental protection of water quality. ■

## Security & Safety Matters

# Physical security changes: Improving our security and safety

In 2003, an independent security consultant firm conducted physical security assessments at several county facilities. The final report included both countywide and agency specific recommendations. Several physical, operational and technical recommendations have been implemented. For example, to help protect against vehicle born explosive devices, employees and visitors to the Government Center, Herrity and Pennino buildings may have noticed that a series of planters were placed in the front and on the sides of these buildings. The planters were excess from the Judicial Center renovation project.

This summer, additional security enhancements are planned for the Government Center complex. Partially

funded by a Department of Homeland Security grant, the Government Center complex will receive improvements in physical security, to include adding cameras to view the exterior of the buildings, grounds and parking structures. The security control room, responsible for monitoring security equipment and controlling access at several facilities, also will be upgraded to take advantage of the latest technology.

With the help of the Department of Information Technology and Facilities Management Department, the security control room will be able to offer surveillance services for multiple county facilities, including monitoring of door, duress and window alarms. Using the county network, the control

room also will be able to monitor cameras at sites throughout the county.

County employees are more cognizant of security needs through awareness training, the county's security Web page, and, of course, the *Courier Safety & Security Matters* column.

Along with the physical and technological changes, security continues to be a priority – safeguarding county facilities, employees and visitors. So stay tuned, a lot of exciting security changes and improvements are on the way.

For more information on security plans, contact **Cindy Rubin**, county security manager, FMD, 703-324-2308, TTY 711, [cindy.rubin@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:cindy.rubin@fairfaxcounty.gov). ■

## Talent search: Deadline extended and live auditions scheduled for July


Got talent? Why not share your singing, instrumental, dance, step, comedy, dramatic, etc. talent during the 2005 Diversity Conference scheduled for November 16 at the Fairfax County Government Center. The Employees' Diversity Committee is searching for talented county employees whose performances best express the diversity in Fairfax County government and that will enhance this year's conference theme, "Diverse People: Diverse Talents." You may apply with an audition videotape/DVD or at one of two live auditions scheduled at the Government Center on July 21, from noon – 1 p.m., and July 26 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

To sign up for an audition time, or obtain an application and guidelines for participation, contact **Jeannie Dickson** at [oepttraining@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:oepttraining@fairfaxcounty.gov). The deadline for applications and tapes has been extended to Aug. 1.

For more information or to request ADA accommodations, contact the Office of Equity Programs, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 339, Fairfax or call 703-324-

2207, TTY  
703-222-  
5494. ■





Courier is published each payday Friday. The deadline for articles and notices is two weeks before publication.

Office of Public Affairs  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 551  
Fairfax, VA 22035-0065

John Nash, editor  
703-324-3197,  
E-mail [john.nash@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:john.nash@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
FAX [courier@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:courier@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
703-324-2010  
TTY 703-324-2935

To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Courier will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please notify editor five to seven days in advance of your requirement.

See Courier online at <http://infoweb/courier>  
All rights reserved. © 2005